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By 
John A. Parrish

DKT.NO.: BUN-8601

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

_____)	
APPLICANT: Vandermeer, J.)	
)	
SERIAL NO. 10/005881)	Art Unit: 1725
)	
FILED: November 8, 2001)	Examiner: Lin
)	
FOR: Investment Casting Mold and Method of Manufacture)	
)	
_____)	
Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 AND 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.98, Applicants submit the document cited on the attached PTO-Form 1449. The reference cited in Form 1449 is briefly discussed below. The reference noted in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an Canadian Office Action. Contrary to allegations made in the office action, this reference is not prior art. In this connection, the publication date of Duffy is

after applicant's priority date of November 10, 2000. Moreover, even if the effective prior art date of Duffy is Duffy's priority date of 17 March 2000, Duffy nevertheless is not prior art against applicant.

Duffy, at page 4, states --"Alternatively, said fibres may be mixed with said refractory." This disclosure can not be accorded an effective prior art date before Duffy's international filing date of March 9, 2001. In this connection, both Duffy's US priority document 09/677757 (Now US Pat. 6450243) and Duffy's GB priority document 0006581.3 are silent as to applicants claimed dry blends of refractory filler and refractory fiber. Since each of these priority documents is silent re applicant's claimed dry blends, then Duffy's aforementioned disclosure at page 4 is new matter relative to the priority documents. Accordingly, the phrase --"Alternatively, said fibres may be mixed with said refractory." -- can not be accorded an effective prior art date before Duffy's international filing date of March 9, 2001. Since Duffy's international filing date of March 9, 2001 is later than applicants priority date of November 10, 2000, Duffy's above-identified disclosure re mixtures of fibers and refractory is not prior art to applicant.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. A. Parrish', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 2-32) Patent and Trademark Office

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
BUN 8601

SERIAL NO.
10/005881

APPLICANT
Vandermeer, J.

FILING DATE
November 8, 2001

GROUP
1725

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	AL	WO 01/68291	Sept. 20, 2001	WIPO				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

EXAMINER INITIALS		OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.